

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
June 12, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Pastor John Spencer, Impact Christian Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

Mr. Hardaway congratulated Andean High School baseball team for winning semi state over the weekend and would like to wish the team “Good Luck” as they advance to State.

The Town received a request for approval of a large gathering permit for the St. Constantine & Helen Grecian Festival. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Some discussion followed. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

The Town received a request for approval of a large gathering permit for St. Elijah Serbian Festival. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Some discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The Town received a request for approval of a large gathering permit for India Festival. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Some discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The Town received a request for approval of a large gathering permit for Salvatorian Fathers Polonia Pilgrimage Festival. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Some discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

A request was received from Aquinas Catholic Community School requesting the waiver of permit fees for a small construction project. Mr. Spann made the motion to approve. Mr. Pettit seconded the motion to approve with the conditions that they will still be responsible to pay any related inspections fees. There was no discussion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated June 12, 2018. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2018. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Minchuk had no report.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mrs. Barron had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac thanked the Police Department for their work involving a child being attacked by a dog. Mrs. Uzelac said the Police Department is working to have the matter taken care of. Discussion followed.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Ms. LaMarca made a motion to submit a letter of intent for a purchase agreement for land located approximately on 67th and 68th and Broadway related to the Community Center and authorization of the Town Manager. Motion was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Olrich said at the last Town Council meeting there was discussion about vandalism issues on the trail she provided information regarding the matter. Ms. Olrich said applications are available for the 4th of July Parade and gave information regarding the parade. Ms. Olrich said the equipment for the Hedricks Park will be arriving the week after the 4th of July. Some discussion followed.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Barron had no report.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Mrs. Uzelac congratulated Curtis Pearson on winning his nomination for Trustee Board and Jan Olrich for Park Director.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Pettit made mentioned of the Ordinances on the agenda to be discussed later.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mr. Spann had no report.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

President Hardaway had no report.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 18-11:

An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing the issuance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, economic development tax increment revenue bonds in a maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed four million dollars (4,000,000) and approving and authorizing other actions in respect thereto. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-12:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, designating an area within the town as an economic development target area. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 18-06:

An Ordinance establishing appropriations and make expenditures of buy money or payments to confidential informants and repealing all town code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, and all matters related thereto. Mr. Minchuk made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-07:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Merrillville Fire Territory Operating Fund, of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2018 not included in the current budget. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-08:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Community Crossing Grant Fund for the year 2018 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-09:

An Ordinance establishing appropriations and creating a town deferral program in the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, and repealing all town code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-10:

An Ordinance establishing a business regulation concerning the requirement for all new businesses that locate within the town to install security cameras, encouraging all existing businesses within the town to undertake same, and repealing all town code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, and all matters related thereto. Mr. Minchuk made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 18-12:

A Resolution approving the transfer of real estate from the Merrillville Conservancy District to the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 18-13:

A preliminary Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, approving real property tax abatement. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

BZA ACTIONS:

Petitioner: Filip Grant
Owner: Freda & Mannuel Grant
Request: Variance of use approval
Purpose: To allow an electric message center
Location: 5891 Broadway
Zoning: C-2, Community Commercial
Case #: Z16Uv4-0518

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Dwayne Williams
Owner: Merrillville Industrial LLC
Request: Variance of use approval
Purpose: To allow beer tap tasting room
Location: 1442 East 86th Place
Zoning: M-1, Industrial zoning district
Case #: Z17Uv5-0518

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Parth Partel
Owner: Parth Partel
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: Proposed dine-in restaurant
Location: 8180 Mississippi Street
Zoning: C-3, Highway commercial zoning district
Case #: Z18E11-0518

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Pettit made mentioned of a report Mrs. Shine provided for an Improvement Location Renovation taking place at Meijier.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lake County Solid Waste “Summer Shred Event, June 16, 2018
From 9a.m. – 1p.m. at Hammond Public Works, 601 Conkey Street.
(Residents may bring up to 4 paper bags grocery bags of paper per household)

Plan Commission meeting, June 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Environmental Resource Committee meeting, June 21, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Redevelopment Commission meeting, June 26, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.

Town Council meeting, June 26, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Pettit.

Richard Hardaway, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer